घरेलू आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करने तक ही सीमित रखने का आग्रह किया गया है, जो हाल ही के वर्षों के दौरान अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय बाजार में आये थे।

Increase in the Cost of Beverage Concentrate Plant of Pepsi

287. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIA : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to an article in 'the Business World' (dated 25th October, 7th November, 1989) on Pepsi Project;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for increase in the cost of beverage concentrate plant from Rs. 5.5 crore to Rs. 11 crore ; and

(c) whether it is a fact that Coca Cola's proposed plant at NOIDA was to cost Rs. 3.5 crore and if so, what precisely are the equipments Pepsi Projects are using to justify such a high cost?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) According to M/s. Punjab Agro Industries Corporation the increase in the project cost is due to the following reasons:—

(1) The investment in fixed assets such as land, equipment, plant and machinery and supporting infrastructural and ancillary facilities would be at higher levels.

(2) Since 1986, when the project was mooted, inflationary pressures have increased the costs substantially.

According to the application of Coca Cola their investment in buildings and plant and machinery was to be approximately Rs. 2.44 crores.

Export of Handloom Goods

288. SHRI M. VINCENT : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the value in rupees of handloom goods exported during the last two years;

(b) what steps are being taken to step up the export target;

(c) what measures have been taken for giving more financial assistance to handloom weavers to procure yarn ; and

(d) what steps are being taken by Government to provide adequate yarn at lower prices ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) The exports of cotton handloom fabrics and made-ups increased from Rs. 237.63 crores in 1987-88 to Rs. 283.36 crores in 1988-89 representing an increase of about 19%.

(b) Keeping in view growth trends, a higher export target of Rs. 360 crores has been fixed for 1990-91 as against the target of Rs. 300 crores in 1989-90 for cotton handlooms. The Government have taken a number of steps to boost handloom exports such as sending trade delegations, conducting market studies and market researches, releasing advertisements in foreign trade magazines and distribution of publicity material, participation in exhibitions abroad, quality improvement of handloom products besides grant of Cash Compensatory Support etc.

(c) NABARD provides refidance facilities to State Cooperative Banks for financing *Inter-alia* production and marketing activites

of primary weavers cooperative societies at a concessional rate of interest and also procurement, marketing and trading-in-yarn activities by apex/regional weaver's cooperative societies. Individual weavers are also provided working capital as per normal District Credit Plan.

(d) Some of the steps taken by Govt. to provide adequate yarn at a lesser price to handloom weavers are: operation of the Hank Yarn Obligation Scheme, loan assistance to the National Cooperative Development Corporation for setting up new weavers' cooperative spinning mills and expansion of capacity of the existing mills and the yarn supply operations (including supply of yarn to handloom weavers at mill-gate prices) of the National Handloom Development Corporation (NHDC). The recently introduced Yarn Depot Scheme operated by NHDC is subsidised to the extent of 5% of the value of yarn supplied to provide for a part of the cost of transportation interest on working capital and other overheads.

Setting up of a Slag Cement Plant at Rourkela

289. SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to set up a slag cement plant at Rourkela in Orissa has been pending since long;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for delay; and

(c) what steps are being taken to give early clearance to that project ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Closure of Iron Ore Mines in Orissa

290. SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of iron ore mines in Orissa have been closed down;

(b) whether some more iron ore mines have fallen sick or are on the verge of closure;

(c) if so, what are the reasons of the sickness and closure of those mines in Orissa; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to revive those mines?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Only a few small mines have not reported any production during 1989.

(c) and (d) Closure of some mines may be due to management or financial problems. The iron ore market both domestic and export is presently buoyant and demand for ore is on the up and up. Price of iron ore has also increased.

Creation of All India Election Service

291. SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleaed to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal for the creation of an All India Election Service;